



**DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE**  
HEADQUARTERS AIR COMBAT COMMAND  
LANGLEY AIR FORCE BASE, VIRGINIA

25 March 2004

**MEMORANDUM FOR ACC MEDICAL GROUP COMMANDERS**

**FROM:** HQ ACC/SG  
162 Dodd Blvd, Ste 100  
Langley AFB VA 23665-1995

**SUBJECT:** Training Use of Global Expeditionary Medical System (GEMS)

1. The Air Force Medical Service uses GEMS to capture medical encounters, thus complying with Presidential mandate and Public Law. As the Command Surgeon for Ground Contingency Medical Support Systems, I feel periodic training is essential to ensure GEMS is used properly. To ensure adequate training, I require all MTF CCs to incorporate GEMS training into their UTC readiness programs. The GEMS 3.0 compact disk is a valuable training tool that contains the operating software, users' manuals and computer-based training programs.
2. My staff has provided the Standard Systems Group (SSG) with POCs and addresses for each ACC MTF. Your Systems office should receive the GEMS disk from SSG NLT 30 Apr 04. With this distribution, the expectation is every deployed AF medical asset will be better prepared to use the GEMS software to capture and track patient encounter information, and occupational/environmental conditions.
3. If you have any questions on this matter, POC is Lt Col Jeffery Lamothe, ACC/SGR, DSN 574-1261, or [acc.sgr@langley.af.mil](mailto:acc.sgr@langley.af.mil). If you have not received the GEMS disk by 30 Apr 04, contact Lt Col Lamothe or Ms. Nancy Moore at SSG, [nancy.moore@gunter.af.mil](mailto:nancy.moore@gunter.af.mil), DSN 596-2603.

**RUSSELL J. KILPATRICK**  
Brigadier General, USAF, MC, CFS  
Command Surgeon

1 Attachment:  
AF/SGO Memo, 9 Feb 04



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE  
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE  
WASHINGTON, DC

09 FEB 2004

MEMORANDUM FOR ALMAJCOM SG

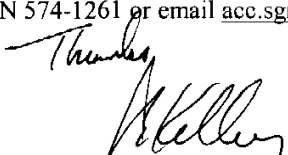
FROM: HQ USAF/SGO  
110 Luke Avenue, Room 400  
Bolling AFB, DC 20032-7050

SUBJECT: Training Use of Global Expeditionary Medical System (GEMS)

GEMS is a critical component of our medical surveillance and medical records systems in the deployed setting. The AFMS uses GEMS to capture medical encounters, thus complying with Presidential mandate and public law. It is essential that GEMS be used, and used properly. Lessons learned from our recent deployments clearly show that early and repeated exposure to the GEMS software will greatly reduce errors and the trepidation associated with the proper use of the GEMS software. I expect all MTFs to incorporate GEMS training into their UTC readiness training regimen and existing training programs; i.e., team training, readiness exercises, etc. ACC/SG is working to provide additional venues for GEMS training (WEB, Formal schools, Just In Time) as well as updating the software to address previously identified shortfalls. Adding GEMS training to our recurring readiness training will have a positive effect on the care we provide our warfighters.

The Standard Systems Group (SSG) stands ready to provide your staff with enough copies of the GEMS 3.0 compact disk (CD) to ensure that each MTF has one for training purposes. The GEMS 3.0 CD contains the operating software, operator's manuals and computer based training programs. MAJCOMS are responsible for contacting SSG with requirements. I recommend you coordinate the deployment of the software through your MTF Systems Offices. With this distribution, I expect that every deployed AF medical asset will be better prepared to use the GEMS software to capture and track patient encounter information and occupational/environmental conditions.

Contact Nancy Moore from SSG to coordinate the quantity of CDs/manuals your units will need, [nancy.moore@gunter.af.mil](mailto:nancy.moore@gunter.af.mil), DSN 596-2603. If you have any policy questions on this matter, the POC is Lt Col Jeffrey Lamothe, ACC/SGR, DSN 574-1261 or email [acc.sgr@langley.af.mil](mailto:acc.sgr@langley.af.mil).

  
JOSEPH E. KELLEY  
Major General, USAF, MC, CFS  
Assistant Surgeon General, Health Care Operations  
Office of the Surgeon General

cc: AF/SG  
AFMOA/CC  
AFMSA/CC